

worthless documents, both public and private, and the people of the whole country are heavily taxed for the support of this monopoly; therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their influence in procuring the abolition of the franking privilege: that the present burden of taxation may be lessened, the postal department of the government may become self-supporting, and the people enjoy a cheaper and more perfect means of inter-communication.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to forward a copy of this preamble and joint resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Approved, January 26, 1870.

NUMBER III.

RATIFYING AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL CONSTITUTION.

JOINT RESOLUTION Ratifying the proposed Fifteenth Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, relative to the Right of Citizens to Vote.

WHEREAS, The Fortieth Congress of the United States has proposed to the Legislatures of the several States the following article of amendment to the Federal Constitution, namely:

ARTICLE 15.

SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SEC. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation; therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That the State of Iowa, by its legislature, hereby ratifies, adopts, and assents to the said amendment.

Approved, February 3, 1870.